

Amendments to the Specification:

In the specification, please make the following amendments/replacements. Page and line citations are to the international application as originally filed.

On page 1:

This invention was made with government support under Contract Number MDA972-02-1-0010, awarded by DARPA-DSO, and under Contract Number {[[#####]] DE-FG0201ER15183}, awarded by DoE, Office of Basic Energy Sciences. The Government has certain rights in the invention.

At the bottom of page 7, lines 17-22:

Silica synthesis sources were HiSil® 915 from Pittsburgh Plate Glass (PPG), and tetramethylammonium silicate (10 wt % silica, SACHEM Inc.). HiSil® silicas are synthetic precipitated silica thixotropes used in a variety of coatings, sealants, and adhesive systems as rheology modifiers and antisag/suspension aids. The Co source was $\text{CoSO}_4 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Aldrich Chemical Co.). The quaternary ammonium surfactants $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{NBr}$ with $n=12, 14, 16$ and 18 were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co., and with $n=10$ from American Tokyo Kasei. The surfactant solutions were prepared by ion-exchanging the 29 wt % (C10 and C12), 20 wt % (C14 and C16), and 10 wt % (C18) of $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{NBr}$ aqueous solution with equal molar

At the top page 9, lines 1-6:

surfactant: $\text{Co}:\text{H}_2\text{O}=1:0.27:0.01:X$ ($X=74.4-86$). Because the preparation process may cause some loss of Co and silica in the by-products, the final Co content of each sample was determined by ICP. A pure siliceous MCM-41 (without the addition of the metal salt to the

synthesis solution) was also prepared with the same procedure as used for Co-MCM-41. Other suitable sources providing a supply of silicon are, for example, a colloidal silicon solution and Cab-O-Sil® L-90, (Cabot Corp., Boston MA). Cab-O-Sil® silicas are fumed silica used in a variety of sealants and adhesive systems as rheology modifiers and antisag/flow/reinforcement agents.